

REMARKS

Status of Claims

Claims 6, 9-12, 18, 19, 21-29, 38, 45-48, 50, 52-72 are pending.

Claims 73-75 are newly presented.

All claims find support in the specification as originally filed. More specifically, support for “wherein the antigen is F protein of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV)” in claims 73-75 is found at least at page 12, line 3.

No new matter is introduced.

Restriction Requirement

The Office has required a further election of species. According to the Office,

The species are as follows:

Various distinct immunogenic compounds comprising HIV gp120 and any antigen which may be linked to the HIV gp120. Also, the antigens can be from distinct sources such as bacteria, viruses, fungi, protozoa or helminth. Applicant is required to elect a single immunogenic compound (i.e., a species) which specifically defines its structure and a specific antigen which is coupled to the gp120.

Office Action at page 2, lines 8-13.

Regarding the Office’s requirement for electing a single immunogenic compound, Applicant elects “wherein the HIV gp120 and the antigen each comprise a polypeptide and both are present in the same polypeptide chain.”

Regarding the Office’s requirement for electing a specific antigen, Applicant elects “F protein of respiratory syncytial virus (RSV).”

Claims 6, 9-11, 18, 19, 21-25, 27-29, 38, 45-48, 50, 52-54, 56-62, and 64-75 read on the foregoing elected species.

CONCLUSIONS

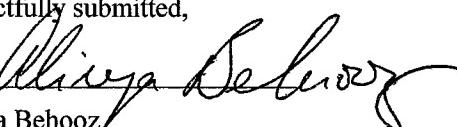
The claims are now in condition for examination and allowance.

If the Office has any questions regarding this submission, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative using the information provided below.

Dated: 12/14/09

Respectfully submitted,

By


Alireza Behooz
Registration No.: 60,882
WOMBLE CARLYLE SANDRIDGE & RICE PLLC
1401 Eye Street, N.W., Seventh Floor
Washington, DC 20005
(202) 467-6900
(202) 467-6910 (Fax)
Attorney for Applicant